UNDP

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Distributed on request
DP/PROJECTS/7128

ENGLISH

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
BOLIVIA

IPF:(1987-91) $18 920 000

(BOL/86/022) - Agricultural Development based on Micro-Irrigation and Dryland Areas

Date of approval by the AC:[1]	22 January 1987
Expected duration:	30 months
Proposed executing agency:	Government
Government implementing agency:	Potosi Regional Development Corporation (CORDEPO) in co-operation with the Regional Offices of the Ministry of Peasant and Agricultural Affairs (MACA), Bolivian Institute for Agricultural Technology (IBTA) and the Bolivian Agricultural Bank (BBA)
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$1 460 800 Source of funds: IPF
Total UNDP budget:	$1 460 800

Project background

Agriculture represents approximately 42 per cent of the labor force in Bolivia. Peasant agriculture is the principal supplier of the traditional agricultural products which make up the diet in the western regions of the country. The agricultural sector as a whole represented approximately 21 per cent of GDP ($3,781.64) in 1985; this sector registered a negative growth rate of -27 per cent in 1983 as a result of drought and floods. Approximately 52 per cent of Bolivia's six million inhabitants live in rural areas of which slightly over 800,000 live in the Department of Potosi; and of this nearly 600,000 live in rural areas.

The productivity of this important sector is extremely low, which together with an unfavorable relation between the countryside and cities and the monopolistic tendencies of the cities over marketing and transport systems means that practically all of the peasants are poor and that the majority of the critical poverty in the country is found among the peasants.

The acute drought experienced in the highlands and in the inter-mountain valleys of the Department of Potosi in 1982-1983 made manifest the absolute absence of irrigation infrastructure, of water holes for cattle and domestic use, contributed to the further deterioration of the dry lands, and dramatically demonstrated the need for various actions. Among these actions was the approval of (BOL/83/008) Rehabilitation in Drought Areas, using

[1] This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.

SPR funds which was carried out in the most affected areas of the Departments of Oruro and Potosí. This project which has been continued in 1985 with IPF funds, established the basis for the implementation of the present project. The project (BOL/83/008) has benefitted 6,188 families, putting 2,878 hectares under simple irrigations systems at a cost of approximately $300 per hectare.

Description of project

The immediate objectives of the project are to: (a) implement and/or improve 322 small-scale hydraulic works in order to provide water for irrigation and limited domestic consumption, in order to increase agricultural production; (b) realize agricultural promotion and extension programmes in order to improve the productivity of the selected irrigated and dry areas through the creation of three pilot demonstration sites and by using appropriate technology, and supply credit, tools and other materials; and (c) train 18 technicians abroad (through TCDC arrangements), 90 community leaders and 1,200 peasants in the use and management of water for irrigation and production systems in the drylands.

Inputs

UNDP will provide for international experts (20 man-months), the national project co-ordinator (30 man-months), local consultants (24 man-months) and administrative support staff; individual fellowships and group training; small-scale irrigation construction materials, tools, seeds, fertilizers and insecticides for use in the demonstration plots; and miscellaneous costs.

Financial data

	$
Personnel	238 200
Training	154 600
Equipment	980 000
Miscellaneous	88 000
Total	1 460 800

- - - - -